UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1992/SR.39
5 August 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1992

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 39th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 28 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. MROZIEWICZ (Poland)

CONTENTS

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

Coordination questions (continued):

(b) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (continued)

Programme and related questions (continued)

Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

92-56529 5919S (E)

/...

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued)

The PRESIDENT said that the Division for Social Development of the United Nations Office at Vienna had requested that the thirty-third session of the Commission for Social Development, scheduled to take place from 1 to 10 February 1993, should be held instead from 8 to 17 February 1993, a change which would coincide with the programme scheduling at Vienna. He took it that the Council agreed to the change requested.

It was so decided.

COORDINATION QUESTIONS (continued):

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (E/1992/L.38)

Mr. WHANNOU (Benin), introducing draft resolution E/1992/L.38, said that the purpose of the resolution was, as in previous years, to facilitate the specialized agencies' contribution to decolonization, which was in its final phase during the current decade, by reaffirming that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system should take all effective measures to assist in the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies. The sponsors had borne in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters; they also recalled General Assembly resolution 46/70 on assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The text expressed the Council's appreciation to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system for their cooperation and recommended that all States should intensify their efforts in those bodies to ensure the implementation of the Declaration and other related resolutions.

(Mr. Whannou, Benin)

It also stressed the preponderant role played by the United Nations Development Programme in coordinating assistance to the peoples of colonial Territories; and it urged the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of the representatives of the Governments of those Territories at the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations. It also requested the President of the Council to maintain contact, on those matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, and requested the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the current resolution, with particular attention to coordination and integration, and to report thereon to the Council in 1993. Two preambular and two operative paragraphs also expressed the Council's solidarity with the black peoples of southern Africa who were still struggling against apartheid.

The sponsors hoped that the Council would adopt draft resolution E/1992/L.38 unanimously.

PROGRAMME AND RELATED QUESTIONS (continued) (E/1992/L.36)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft decision (E/1992/L.36) which he proposed on behalf of the Bureau for adoption by the Council, in regard to summary records of sessional committees, the regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council. Since summary records for the bodies enumerated in the draft decision had already been discontinued for a number of years, the Bureau thought that the Council might wish to maintain that situation in 1993. The Council was invited to take action accordingly at its next plenary meeting.

The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1992/SR.40
4 August 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1992

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 40th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 30 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. MROZIEWICZ (Poland)

CONTENTS

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

Coordination questions (continued):

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics (continued)

Elections

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

Advancement of women

Social development questions

Other matters

Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued) (E/1992/113)

Mr. YENEL (Turkey) drew attention to a letter dated 17 July 1992 from the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1992/113), informing him that the General Conference of UNESCO had unanimously adopted resolution 5.6, entitled "Consultations with the United Nations with a view to declaring 1995 United Nations year for tolerance" (E/1992/113, annex). He requested the Council to take note of the letter and the resolution of the General Conference and to transmit it to the General Assembly for consideration.

It was so decided.

COORDINATION QUESTIONS (continued):

(c) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATICS (continued) (E/1992/L.37)

Mr. DEKANY (Observer for Hungary), introducing draft resolution E/1992/L.37 on behalf of the sponsors, said that, in its resolution 1991/70 the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare a study analysing the causes of the current situation with respect to United Nations informatics systems and providing an outline of a rapid solution to the problem. In his report (E/1992/78), the Secretary-General recognized that, with the availability of comparatively inexpensive microcomputer technology and the advent of constantly declining prices for use of global telecommunications networks, there was a keen desire on the part of Member States to have easy access to United Nations databases. The draft resolution called for urgent measures to achieve easy and economical access for all Member States and observers, through their permanent missions in particular,

(Mr. Dekany, Observer, Hungary)

to United Nations computerized databases and information systems and services. The sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

ELECTIONS

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Committee on Natural Resources

Committee on New and Renewable Source of Energy and on Energy for Development

After a procedural discussion in which Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom), Mr. EHLERS (Observer for Uruguay), Mr. PAULINICH (Peru), Mr. SETH (India), Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines), Mr. LAYNE (Observer for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. NEGA (Ethiopia), Mr. SERGIWA (Observer for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. RANDRIAMALALA (Madagascar), Mr. AL-FAIHANI (Bahrain), Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), Mr. LAACK (Observer for the Marshall Islands), Mr. DANERI (Argentina), Mr. SCHÖNLEITER (Germany), Mr. SARDENBERG (Brazil), Mr. AL-KHARASHI (Saudi Arabia), and Ms. STRUYVENBERG (Executive Office of the Secretary-General) took part, the PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should proceed to vote on the candidates whose names had already been submitted in respect of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development, and that the additional candidatures should be provided to the Secretariat immediately, in order that voting on them could take place later that day or the following morning.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT accordingly invited the Council to vote on the States whose names had been submitted in respect of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development.

Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay were elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT noted that the Council was also to elect, at a later meeting, a further eight members from African States, two from Asian States, one from Eastern European States and six from the Group of Western European and Other States.

He invited the Council to elect 24 government-nominated experts for the Committee on Natural Resources.

Mr. DOLGOPOLOV (Russian Federation), Mr. MEJIA ANGEL (Colombia) and Mr. PAVLOVSCHI (Romania) were elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT noted that the Council was also to elect, at a later meeting, a further six candidates from African States, five from Asian States, one from Eastern European States and three from Latin American and Caribbean States to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Since there were more candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States than there were vacancies to be filled from that group, he invited the Council to elect six experts from the Group by secret ballot from the list of names contained in document E/1992/114.

At the invitation of the President, Mrs. Belmar (Mexico) and Mr. Barac (Romania) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	53
Number of valid ballots:	53
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	52
Required majority:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Rieck (Germany)	48
Mr. Davis (Canada)	47
Mr. Rutland (Australia)	45
Mr. Oudshoorn (Netherlands)	44
Ms. Falkenmark (Sweden)	43
Mr. Farinelli (Italy)	42
Mr. Bilen (Turkey)	35

Mr. Rieck (Germany), Mr. Davis (Canada), Mr. Rutland (Australia), Mr. Oudshoorn (Netherlands), Ms. Falkenmark (Sweden) and Mr. Farinelli (Italy), having obtained the required majority, were elected.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to elect 24 government-nominated experts for the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development.

Mr. Boumaour (Algeria), Mr. Costa Filho (Brazil), Mr. Musatescu (Romania), Mr. Penchev (Bulgaria), Mr. Restrepo Salazar (Colombia), Mr. Rodas Rodas (Paraguay) and Mr. Volfberg (Russian Federation) were elected by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT noted that the Council was also to elect, at a later meeting, a further five candidates from African States, five from Asian States and one from Latin American and Caribbean States.

Since there were more candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States than there were vacancies to be filled from that group, he invited the Council to elect six experts from the group by secret ballot from the list of names contained in document E/1992/115.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Al-Dosari (Bahrain) and Mr. Kobayashi (Japan) acted as tellers.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	53
Number of valid ballots:	53
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	52
Majority required:	27
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr. Devin (France)	48
Mr. Guthermuth (Germany)	40
Mr. Hein (Austria)	37
Mr. Pinchera (Italy)	34
Mr. Johansson (Sweden)	32
Mr. Turkenburg (Netherlands)	31
Mr. Isachsen (Norway)	30
Mr. Dietrich (Denmark)	27
Mr. Gerresch (Belgium)	26

Mr. Devin (France), Mr. Guthermuth (Germany), Mr. Hein (Austria), Mr. Pinchera (Italy), Mr. Johansson (Sweden) and Mr. Turkenburg (Netherlands), having obtained the required majority, were elected.

Elections postponed from previous sessions

Population Commission

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Chairman of the Group of African States that Cameroon and the United Republic of Tanzania had been nominated to fill the two vacancies from that group in the Population Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1993.

Cameroon and the United Republic of Tanzania were elected by acclamation.

Commission on Human Settlements

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Chairman of the Group of African States that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi and Somalia had been nominated to fill three of the five vacancies from that group in the Commission on Human Settlements for a four-year period beginning on 1 January 1993.

Mr. MAINO (Papua New Guinea), speaking as the Chairman of the Asian Group, said that Indonesia had been endorsed as a candidate from that group.

Indonesia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi and Somalia were elected by acclamation.

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed by the Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States that Panama had been nominated to fill the vacancy from that Group in the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1993.

Panama was elected by acclamation.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SECOND DECADE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (E/1992/104)

Report of the Social Committee

The PRESIDENT said that if he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution recommended for adoption by the Social Committee in paragraph 16 of document E/1992/104.

The draft resolution was adopted.

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation had joined the consensus in the adoption of the draft resolution on the grounds that, in most respects, it reflected the situation in South Africa and would encourage all the parties to press forward in the search for a democratic and non-racial society.

With regard to the thirteenth preambular paragraph and paragraph 5, however, both of which concerned the impact of international pressure on developments in South Africa, his delegation wished to point out that, while international pressure had undeniably exerted some influence on South Africa's policies, there had not always been agreement as to the most effective approaches to achieving the universally desired goal of a non-racial and democratic society. The United States firmly believed that the most appropriate and effective means to encourage all parties to return to negotiations were such measures as those adopted by the Security Council and the pressure of international attention, as evidenced, for example, by the visit of the United Nations representative, Cyrus Vance.

Mr. SEZAKI (Japan) said that his delegation welcomed the consensus on the draft resolution, but wished to express its reservations with regard to paragraph 8, which referred to a Convention which only two States had so far ratified and which was therefore of doubtful relevance.

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (E/1992/24, E/1992/105)

Report of the Social Committee

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to turn its attention to the report of the Social Committee on the advancement of women (E/1992/105). In paragraph 31 of the report, eight draft resolutions were recommended for adoption by the Council. The text of draft resolutions I to VII was contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1992/24, chap. I, sect A).

Draft resolution I

Draft resolution I was adopted.

Draft resolution II

The PRESIDENT said it would be recalled that the Social Committee had adopted draft resolution II by 33 votes to 1, with 17 abstentions, in a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution II.

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Jamaica, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Somalia, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 33 votes to 1, with 18 abstentions.

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his country abhorred apartheid as a system that had denied individuals their most basic human rights, and that no country was more firmly opposed than his own to a system of government that stood in such stark contrast to the principles of human rights and freedoms enshrined in the Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It welcomed the fact that a resolution on women and children under apartheid acknowledged the progress that had been made towards ending that repugnant system, and his delegation had tried hard to reach a compromise on the wording of the draft, since it would be of no value if the international community were to send mixed signals on such an important issue. Rather than using harsh and outdated rhetoric, the resolution should have aimed at encouraging the negotiating process, and it has been for that reason that his delegation had called for a recorded vote and had voted against the draft resolution.

Mr. SHARP (Australia), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but would have preferred to see wording which more closely reflected current developments in South Africa.

Draft resolution III

The PRESIDENT said it would be recalled that the draft resolution had been adopted by the Social Committee by a recorded vote of 36 to 1, with 13 abstentions.

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America), calling for a recorded vote, said that his country opposed certain measures practised by Israel in the occupied territories, including deportations, the excessive use of force and curfews, the closing of schools and universities, demolition of housing as a form of collective punishment, and arbitrary administrative detention. It also opposed settlement activity as an obstacle to peace, and believed that Israel was under an obligation to adhere to the terms of the Fourth Geneva Convention. However, to focus exclusively on the occupation and the practices of the Israeli security forces would be one-sided: other factors, such as Israeli and Palestinian violence, intimidation and various actions which had disrupted Palestinian economic activity had also adversely affected the situation of Palestinian women and children. His country strongly supported humanitarian asistance for the Palestinian people, and indeed furnished such assistance itself.

Direct negotiations based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) had begun between an Israeli delegation and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, as well as between Israeli and Syrian and Lebanese delegations. The United States strongly supported those negotiations as the best means of resolving crucial political problems. It was regrettable that elements in the draft resolution prejudged their outcome, and his delegation would accordingly vote against the draft resolution.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 37 votes to 1, with 14 abstentions.

Mr. SHARP (Australia), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation's abstention was due to its reservation with regard to the term "occupied Palestinian territory". It would have been preferable to refer to "the territories occupied by Israel since 1967".

Draft resolution IV

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America) said that his delegation would not associate itself with, but would not oppose, the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus. Its concern should not be interpreted as indicating any lack of support for the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, but it could not reconcile the proposals contained in the draft resolution with the efforts now being made to control the costs of the United Nations as a whole.

It continued to believe strongly that in an era of budget constraint the United Nations system must make every effort to streamline its operations in order to ensure that key objectives were accomplished without endless requests for additional resources. Admittedly, the workload of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women had increased as additional States had become parties to the Convention, and there was a backlog of reports. Imaginative and cost-effective ways must, however, be found to deal with that situation.

Draft resolution IV was adopted.

Draft resolution V

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America) said that any financial implications arising from the draft resolution should be absorbed within the regular budget of the United Nations.

Draft resolution V was adopted.

Draft resolutions VI and VII

Draft resolutions VI and VII were adopted.

Draft resolution VIII

Mr. ISSA (Observer for Egypt) said that he wished it to be recorded that his delegation supported the draft resolution.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the five draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 32 of the Social Committee's report (E/1992/105). The text of draft decisions I and II was contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1992/24, chap. I, sect. B).

Draft decisions I to V

Draft decision I to V were adopted.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONS (E/1992/106)

Report of the Social Committee

Mr. RANASINGHE (Observer for Sri Lanka) said that he wished to place on record his delegation's support for draft resolution VI on social development contained in document E/1992/106.

Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom) pointed out that document E/1992/106 mistakenly included his delegation among those which had sponsored the draft resolution on social development calling for the convening of a world summit for social development.

OTHER MATTERS

Mr. AL-KHARASHI (Observer for Saudi Arabia) said that he wished to state for the record his delegation's objection to any decision or resolution which ran counter to Islamic law.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1992/SR.41
30 July 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1992

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 41st MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 30 July 1992, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. MROZIEWICZ (Poland)

CONTENTS

Advancement of women (continued)

Social development questions (continued)

Narcotic drugs (continued)

Development and international economic cooperation (continued)

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster (continued)

Public administration and finance (continued)

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

/...

Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

92-56553 5924S (E)

/...

CONTENTS (continued)

Operational activities for development (continued)

Technical cooperation among developing countries as a modality in the formulation, preparation, execution and evaluation of the projects implemented by the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system in the economic, social and related fields (continued)

Programme and related questions (continued)

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance (continued)

The meeting was called to order at 3.25 p.m.

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (continued)

Mr. OULIA (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that had his delegation been present at the previous meeting, when the Council adopted draft resolutions II and III contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1992/24), it would have voted in favour of them.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONS (continued)

Report of the Social Committee (E/1992/106)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to turn its attention to the report of the Social Committee on social development questions (E/1992/106). In paragraphs 34 and 35 of the report, six draft resolutions and three draft decisions were recommended for adoption by the Council. The texts of draft resolutions I through III and draft decision I were contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1992/30, chap. I).

Draft resolutions I to V

Draft resolutions I to V were adopted.

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America), noting that no final estimate of the programme budget implications of draft resolutions I and III had been given, said that such estimates should be deferred only on an exceptional basis. His delegation would reserve its final approval of the relevant programme budget implications until the report of the secretariat was available; its participation in the adoption of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice was provisional and would be reviewed during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

Draft resolution VI

Mr. MARTIN (United Kingdom) expressed his delegation's gratitude to the resolution's co-sponsors for including some of the concerns it had raised in informal consultations, but noted that other points of equal importance had been omitted.

(Mr. Martin, United Kingdom)

Specifically, there seemed to be a reluctance to make any reference to the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the preparations for the proposed world summit on social development. His delegation believed that the NGO community, which was often much closer to the grass roots, had an important role to play and must be involved at an early stage if the summit was to reach meaningful conclusions.

His delegation had been surprised at the insistence of the co-sponsors that the Council should recommend the convening of the summit without giving due consideration to the objectives of the summit and its agenda; those issues should be thoroughly discussed at the coming session of the General Assembly. His delegation would place particular emphasis on the need for a judicious mix of market efficiency and social responsibility, and would also emphasize the need to create a judicious balance between public and private sector roles; such a balance was essential to avoid inefficient government intervention in productive processes, such as agriculture and industry, coupled with inadequate spending on social services, which should be its primary responsibility. Finally, his delegation would argue that the proposed summit must not create overlaps and duplication with other activities of the United Nations system.

Mr. SRIVHOK (Observer for Thailand) said that his delegation would like to join in sponsoring the draft resolution.

Draft resolution VI was adopted.

Mr. SCHUTTE (Germany) noted, for the record, that his delegation had made its position on draft resolution VI quite clear when the text was adopted in the Social Committee.

Mr. SOMAVIA (Chile) thanked the nearly 120 countries which had joined Chile in sponsoring the draft resolution. That record number of sponsors was an indication of the political will that the summit represented. The work yet to be done was daunting. The political decision had been made, but the General Assembly must still supply a concise agenda of central themes to ensure the political and operational success of the summit, as well as an efficient preparatory process embodying the necessary political leadership.

The decision just taken had four significant implications. First, by placing the human being at the heart of the United Nations, it could lead to

(Mr. Somavia, Chile)

practical decisions to reduce poverty and increase employment in the world, thus sending a message of hope to all citizens. Second, it would help modify the widespread impression that the United Nations true political priority was the problems of peace and security dealt with by the Security Council; its message was that each one of the 40,000 children that died daily from malnutrition and disease was as important as each person killed in armed conflict. Third, the decision recognized that all societies faced worrisome social problems, though they were immensely more serious in the developing world. And finally, the decision showed the need to supplement the advances made in the area of human rights, democracy and market liberalization with an enhancement of people's quality of life, a true social development, considered as important as economic development.

The PRESIDENT suggested that, should the General Assembly take positive action on the convening of the world summit for social development, the initiative should be taken up by the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development at their regular 1993 sessions.

Draft decisions I to III

Draft decisions I to III were adopted.

NARCOTIC DRUGS (continued)

Report of the Social Committee (E/1992/107)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to turn its attention to the report of the Social Committee on narcotic drugs (E/1992/107). In paragraphs 17 and 18 of the report, three draft resolutions and three draft decisions were recommended for adoption by the Council. The texts of the draft resolutions and draft decisions could be found in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1992/25).

Draft resolutions I and III

Draft resolutions I and III were adopted.

Draft resolution II

Ms. FENG Cui (China) said that her delegation appreciated the efforts being made to further strengthen drug control, but could not agree to paragraph 6 of draft resolution II categorizing methyl ethyl ketone, toluene,

(Ms. Feng Cui, China)

potassium permanganate, sulphuric acid and hydrochloric acid as controlled chemicals. Drug control efforts should be pragmatic and should draw a clear distinction between drug abuse and legitimate uses of chemicals such as these solvents, oxidants and inorganic acids, which were in common and legal industrial use. Moreover, account should be taken of the differing levels of industrial development in different countries and particularly of the realities and interests of the developing countries. The risk of diversion of small amounts of the listed chemicals for illicit use should not necessitate restrictions on their legal use. Accordingly, her delegation wished the record to show that it had a reservation with respect to paragraph 6 of the resolution.

Ms. MEHTA (India) noted that her delegation had abstained in the vote on operative paragraph 6 of the resolution in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and continued to have concerns in that regard. In particular, it felt that subparagraphs (d) and (e) went further than the obligations contracted under the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Putting in place the requisite regulatory mechanisms might involve both excessive cost and logistical problems, and the mechanisms could also have adverse implications for legitimate trade.

She reaffirmed that India was fulfilling its obligations under the Convention and said that a suitable scheme for controlling and monitoring the diversion of essential chemicals was at an advanced stage of preparation.

Mrs. LIMJUCO (Philippines) reiterated her delegation's full support for the draft resolution but also the position it had taken during the meeting in Vienna, opposing the inclusion in the annex to the 1988 Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, under paragraph 6 of the resolution, of potassium permanganate, hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid, as these substances were in extensive licit use in various industries and, in any event, cocaine, in whose manufacture they were used, was not and never had been widely abused in the Philippines.

Draft resolution II was adopted.

Draft decisions I to III

Draft decisions I to III were adopted.

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

Reports of the Economic Committee (E/1992/109/Add.2-Add.4)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on food and agricultural development and prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (E/1992/109/Add.2). In paragraphs 22 and 23 of the report, three draft resolutions and one draft decision were recommended for adoption by the Council.

Draft resolutions I to III and the draft decision were adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on international cooperation in tax matters, transnational corporations and consumer protection (E/1992/109/Add.3). In paragraphs 16 and 17 of the report, three draft resolutions and two draft decisions were recommended for adoption by the Council. The texts of the draft resolutions and of draft decision I were contained in the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations (E/1992/26/Add.1).

Draft resolutions I to III

Draft resolutions I to III were adopted.

Draft decisions I and II

Draft decisions I and II were adopted.

The PRESIDENT then drew attention to two draft decisions contained respectively in paragraphs 6 and 22 of the report of the Economic Committee. If he heard no objection he would take it that the Council wished to adopt them.

The draft decisions contained in paragraphs 6 and 22 of the report were adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on the international conference on population and development (E/1992/109/Add.4), paragraph 9 of which contained a draft resolution which the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on international cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences for Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait (E/1992/109/Add.5), paragraph 5 of which contained a draft decision which the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council.

The draft decision was adopted.

STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER (continued)

Report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/111)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on the draft resolution and draft decision recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraphs 8 and 9 respectively of the report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/111).

The draft resolution and draft decision were adopted.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE (continued)

Report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/112)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to take action on the draft decision recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 6 of the report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/112).

The draft decision was adopted.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (continued)

Draft resolution on review of the conditions necessary for the effective functioning of the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit (E/1992/L.30)

The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications. He announced that Italy, Norway and Tunisia had joined the sponsors. He noted that consensus had been reached on the draft resolution during informal consultations following the addition of two amendments. In the fifth preambular paragraph, the word "further" should be inserted after the word "considering", and in paragraph 2 the phrase "within existing resources" should be inserted after "appropriate measures".

Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines), Vice-President, said that the phrase agreed during informal consultations was "to the extent possible within existing resources".

Mr. KUEHL (United States of America) said that another amendment had been agreed, namely that the words "to the extent possible within existing resources" should be inserted in paragraph 5 after the word "consider".

The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution, as orally amended.

It was so decided.

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on activities of the United Nations system in the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States (E/1992/L.34)

The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications. He also announced that Switzerland had been inadvertently omitted from the list of original sponsors of the draft resolution and that Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Russian Federation and Turkey had subsequently joined the sponsors.

If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

It was so decided.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A MODALITY IN THE FORMULATION, PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND EVALUATION OF THE PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS (continued)

Draft resolution on technical cooperation among developing countries (E/1992/L.29 and L.39)

Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines), Vice-President, introducing draft resolution E/1992/L.39, which he was submitting on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1992/L.29, drew attention to a minor drafting change to paragraph 7 and said that in paragraph 8 the words "stated national policies and measures favourable to the" should be deleted. He hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted without a vote.

The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that there were no programme budget implications. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution, as orally amended.

It was so decided.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.29 was withdrawn by the sponsors.

PROGRAMME AND RELATED QUESTIONS (continued)

Draft decision on summary records of sessional committees, the regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (E/1992/L.36)

The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft decision had no programme budget implications. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

It was so decided.

SPECIAL ECONOMIC, HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE (continued)

Draft resolution on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (E/1992/L.31)

The PRESIDENT, after noting that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications, announced that Algeria, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Suriname had joined the sponsors.

Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines), Vice-President, reporting on the results of the informal consultations on the draft resolution, noted that in paragraph 2 the words "report to" should be replaced by the word "inform". He hoped that it would be adopted without a vote.

The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution, as orally amended.

It was so decided.

Mr. MAHMOUD (Observer for Lebanon) expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Council for the solidarity it had shown towards his country by adopting the draft resolution without a vote.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

E/1992/SR.42
7 August 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1992

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 42nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 31 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. MROZIEWICZ (Poland)

CONTENTS

Regional cooperation (continued): report of the Economic Committee

Development and international economic cooperation (continued): report of the Economic Committee

Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories (continued): report of the Economic Committee

Coordination questions (continued)

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster-relief assistance (continued)

Establishment of new subsidiary bodies of the Council (continued)

Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system (continued)

/...

Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

92-56556 5925S (E)

/...

CONTENTS (continued)

Operational activities for development (continued)

Reports of the coordination bodies

Revitalization of the Economic and Social Council (continued)

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (continued)

Elections (continued)

Statement by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development

Suspension of the substantive session of 1992

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

REGIONAL COOPERATION (continued)

Report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/108)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the 10 draft resolutions recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 42 of the Economic Committee's report (E/1992/108).

Draft resolutions I to X were adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the seven draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 43 of the report.

Draft decisions I to VII were adopted.

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

Report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/109 and Add.1)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the three draft resolutions which the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 25 of its report (E/1992/109).

Draft resolutions I to III were adopted.

Mr. AHMIA (Algeria), with reference to draft resolution II, recalled, for the record, the statement he had made on behalf of the littoral States of Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia on cooperation in fisheries in Africa.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft decision, which the Committee recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 26 of its report (E/1992/109).

The draft decision was adopted.

The PRESIDENT then invited the Council to consider the report of the Economic Committee on the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, trade and

(The President)

development, development and utilization of new and renewable sources of energy and development of the energy resources of developing countries (E/1992/109/Add.1).

He invited the Council to consider the draft resolution recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 23 of the report.

The draft resolution was adopted.

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the three draft decisions on agenda sub-items 12 (a), 12 (b) and 12 (g) respectively recommended for adoption by the Council in paragraph 24 of the report.

Draft decisions I to III were adopted.

PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES (continued)

Report of the Economic Committee (E/1992/110)

The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolution in paragraph 14, which the Economic Committee was recommending for adoption by the Council, noting that the Committee had adopted it by a recorded vote of 47 to 2, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. SHAUKAT (Pakistan) said that his delegation wished to join the sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mr. SCHIELE (United States of America) said that his delegation had voted against the draft resolution in the Committee and would do so again in the current meeting. It was well known that the United States regarded Israeli settlements in the territories concerned as an obstacle to peace; but it was for the parties concerned to negotiate a solution. There were encouraging signs in the current negotiations, which measures such as the draft resolution under consideration could only serve to hinder.

At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution.

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines,

Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Somalia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia.

Against: Russian Federation, United States of America.

Abstaining: Canada, Japan.

The draft resolution was adopted by 47 votes to 2, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. BARNETT (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, said that the latter had consistently deemed Israeli settlements illegal under international law and a threat to peace. However, the Israeli Government's decision to halt further settlement was a positive step.

Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had no objection to the contents of the draft resolution, but felt that consideration of the text should have been postponed in order to avoid raising further obstacles on the eve of renewed negotiations on the situation in the occupied territories. The Russian Federation, as co-Chairman of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, was not in favour of taking a decision at the current time. His delegation, therefore, had voted against the draft resolution.

Mr. SAFAEI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, on the understanding that no wording which implied any recognition of Israel's right to be in the occupied Palestinian territories would be acceptable.

Ms. BEZEREDI (Canada) said that her delegation, while recognizing the sponsors' commendable efforts, had abstained during the vote, since the text made no reference to the current peace negotiations which were the most promising opportunity seen in decades for steps towards a lasting solution.

Mr. FRANCIS (Australia) said that his delegation had supported the draft resolution. It had noted, however, the recent moves by the Israeli Government with regard to settlements, which, although not amounting to a complete freeze, were a positive step.

Mr. HJELMÅKER (Sweden) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution but would have welcomed a reference, in the text, to the current peace process and the Israeli Government's action to restrict further settlement.

Mr. JAAFARI (Syrian Arab Republic) said that, had his delegation been present during the vote, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

Mr. DYOMIN (Belarus) said that, although his delegation supported the basic contents of the draft resolution, it would have preferred not to take a decision at the current session, in order to avoid creating any hindrance to the current negotiations aimed at improving the situation in the Middle East.

Mr. KOIKE (Japan) said that his delegation had abstained during the vote, since it believed that the General Assembly, not the Council, was the most appropriate forum for dealing with such a matter - the sort of point to be borne in mind in the context of the calls to rationalize the work of the Council. Had the draft resolution in question been submitted for adoption at the General Assembly, his delegation would have voted in favour of it.

Mr. CORNEILLE (Rwanda) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution. It nevertheless welcomed the recent positive political developments in the Middle East and felt that the innovative action by the Israeli Government, including the measures to restrict further settlement, gave grounds for optimism. In that regard, the Council, by voting in favour of the draft resolution, was surely helping to improve the political climate.

COORDINATION QUESTIONS (continued)

Draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people (E/1992/L.35, L.38)

Ms. KELLY (Secretary of the Council) drew attention to the reference, in operative paragraph 9 on the draft resolution, to the possible convening of a seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory. The General Assembly, in resolution 46/74, had authorized the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to exert all efforts in the exercise of its mandate,

(Ms. Kelly)

including any measures, such as the convening of seminars, that it deemed necessary. A seminar of the sort suggested in operative paragraph 9 could be funded as part of the work programme of the Committee.

Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), Vice-President, announced that Malaysia and Suriname had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution and pointed out that the words "convening such a seminar" in paragraph 9 should be followed by a comma and the words "taking into account the assistance needs of the Palestinian people in the light of developments in the region;".

Mr. TENNE (Observer for Israel) said that, earlier in the debate, he had spoken about conditions in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. The situation of the inhabitants of those territories was being constantly improved; for example, the United Nations Development Programme, in the report contained in document A/47/212, had remarked on the pace of improvements. But the sponsors of the current draft resolution merely perpetuated their annual ritual, focusing solely on the intifadah and seeing nothing in the situation but "restrictions". The United States Assistant Secretary of State, addressing the Council during the high-level segment of the current session, had deplored the Council's tendency to waste time on polemics. The proposals contained in the current draft resolution would do nothing at all to further the cause of the Palestinians. It seemed that the latter, in the view of the sponsors, depended on the holding of yet another seminar, an activity which could hardly warrant using scarce United Nations resources at a time of so many pressing needs throughout the world.

At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution E/1992/L.35.

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda,

Somalia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Russian Federation.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.35 was adopted by 52 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Mr. BARNETT (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of vote on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community, said that the Twelve had voted in favour of the draft resolution; it was their understanding, however, that the sixth preambular paragraph referred to the economy of the occupied Palestinian territories.

The European Community had provided and would continue to provide substantial humanitarian and economic assistance to the Palestinian people. Direct aid had increased by 20 per cent in 1992, and additional emergency assistance totalling 60 million ECU, or approximately $70 million, had been granted to the population of the occupied territories following the Gulf crisis. With regard to paragraph 3 of the resolution, the Twelve stipulated that Community assistance would, as in the past, be channelled through the competent organizations of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations.

With regard to paragraph 5, the Twelve had adopted autonomous tariff arrangements which included duty-free access for industrial products and preferential treatment for certain agricultural products from the occupied territories. The Community had recognized the West Bank and Gaza Strip Chambers of Commerce as authorities qualified to issue certificates of origin and to ensure the necessary administrative cooperation. In their discussions with the Israeli authorities, the Twelve had repeatedly stressed the importance which they attached to the implementation of the Community's trade measures, and their opposition to any administrative or other obstacles to Palestinian exports.

The Twelve interpreted paragraph 8 as referring to the establishment of a network of local banks in the occupied territories.

(Mr. Barnett, United Kingdom)

With regard to the convening of a seminar, as referred to in paragraph 9, the Twelve hoped that any such seminar would take due account of the peace process and would not place any obstacles in the way of the multilateral working group on regional economic development.

Mr. MARKS (United States of America) said that his country's support for humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people was shown by its contributions to UNRWA. The United States was the largest single donor to that organization; its contributions had totalled $63.3 million in 1991, and would exceed that amount in 1992. Since 1975, the United States had maintained the largest single programme of direct aid to the territories. In 1989, it had made $22 million available to private voluntary organizations for the purpose of improving health conditions, developing infrastructure and promoting education for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In addition, basic food commodities had been distributed to 96,000 residents of the occupied territories.

His delegation had voted against the draft resolution because the latter did not accurately reflect the current situation in the territories or the ongoing peace process. The draft resolution proposed impractical and unacceptable solutions to problems in the territories, such as the suggestion in paragraph 3 that the international community should provide assistance to the Palestinian people in "close cooperation" with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). His Government urged the Council instead to consider practical and workable means of increasing investment, employment, production and income opportunities in the occupied territories.

Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had abstained during the vote. While the Russian Federation supported the draft resolution's emphasis on continued assistance to the Palestinian people, it believed, as co-Chairman of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, that the timing of the decision was wrong, especially in view of the resolution's highly politicized language. Noting that the text of the resolution was essentially the same as that of the previous year's draft resolution on the subject, he recalled that, at the previous session, the

(Mr. Kudryavtsev, Russian Federation)

members of the Council had been willing to postpone their decision until the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly; he would have preferred for the Council to take a similar approach at the current session.

Mr. KOIKE (Japan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, and that Japan had made every effort to extend assistance to them and to the peace process in the region. While his Government supported the convening of a seminar, as referred to in paragraph 9, it wished to emphasize that assistance to the Palestinian people should not be viewed as separate from the ongoing peace process, and that the activities of the respective multilateral working groups which were part of that process must be taken into account.

Ms. FREUDENSCHUSS (Austria) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, which dealt with an important issue. With regard to paragraph 5, she drew attention to the fact that under existing Austrian legislation, Palestinian certificates of origin could not be accepted. Exports from the occupied Palestinian territories were, however, given preferential customs treatment.

Mr. HJELMÅKER (Sweden) said that, while his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, with regard to paragraph 9, it believed that the ongoing peace process was the appropriate forum in which to address the needs for assistance to the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

Ms. KORPI (Finland) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, as it continued to support assistance to the Palestinian people. Nevertheless, her Government had reservations on the question of imports to and exports from the occupied Palestinian territories and the relevant certificates of origin; had a separate vote been taken on paragraphs 4 and 5, Finland would have abstained.

Mr. SAFAEI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, as his delegation was fully committed to the advancement of the Palestinian cause, it had supported the draft resolution, despite its reservations about the use of the term "Gulf" in that document. The historically correct name of the region concerned was, as recognized by the United Nations, "Persian Gulf".

Mr. MARKS (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, said it was his understanding that the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic had asked for the floor during the current discussion. Noting that the Syrian Arab Republic was a sponsor of the draft resolution just adopted, he drew attention to rule 62 of the Council's rules of procedure, which provided that the representative of a Member State sponsoring a proposal could not speak in explanation of vote thereon, unless the proposal had been amended.

Mr. STOBY (Director of Economic and Social Council Affairs and the Inter-Agency Coordination Division) said that it was his understanding that the Vice-President of the Council, in introducing the draft resolution, had made amendments to it; under rule 62, therefore, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic would be entitled to explain his vote.

Mr. JAAFARI (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the Israeli representative had accused the United Nations of sponsoring terrorism by adopting the draft resolution, which had been supported by a large majority. That was an insult to the international community and the international legal order to which Israel owed its legitimacy. The Israeli representative's use of such terms as Judaea and Samaria in referring to the occupied territories was intended to give the impression that the Israeli occupation was a natural phenomenon. Israel believed that it alone could make the rules and that it should not be called to account by the international community for such actions as establishing settlements and destroying mosques and holy places. The move towards peace was based solely on the legal recognition of Security Council resolutions 238 (1967) and 242 (1967) and had no other basis. He expressed appreciation to those countries which had voted for legality, and the hope that substantial assistance would be granted to the Palestinian people. In order to meet the needs of the Palestinian people fully, it would be necessary to put an end to the Israeli occupation.

Draft resolution on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/1992/L.38)

The PRESIDENT said he had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications. It was his understanding that the informal consultations held on the draft resolution had not led to a consensus.

Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), Vice-President, said that Trinidad and Tobago had joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution. During the informal consultations, the sponsors had agreed to make a number of amendments to the text with a view to resolving differences. Nevertheless, one delegation had requested a recorded vote, which meant that the effort to reach consensus had failed. Accordingly, the sponsors wished to put to a vote the text which they had originally submitted, with only two minor amendments.

Mr. WHANNOU (Benin) proposed the following amendments on behalf of the sponsors. In the third preambular paragraph, the words "Assembly resolution 46/65 of 11 December 1991 and" should be deleted, and in the eighth preambular paragraph, the term "Non-Self-Governing" should be inserted before the words "small island Territories".

Mr. LIMON (Suriname) and Mr. SAFAEI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that their delegations had joined the list of sponsors.

Mr. BARNETT (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the 12 States members of the European Community, said that the Twelve reaffirmed their strong support for all efforts to eliminate colonialism in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and their unwavering commitment to the right to self-determination of the peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Twelve supported the efforts of the specialized agencies to provide humanitarian, technical and educational assistance to the people in those Territories, while emphasizing that the autonomy and the mandates of the specialized agencies must be respected.

The Twelve reaffirmed their opposition to the continued reference to South Africa in the context of decolonization. Such a reference was inappropriate and did not take into account the positive developments which had taken place in South Africa; furthermore, the proposed wording was at variance with the consensus language adopted by the General Assembly under the appropriate agenda items. For those reasons, the Twelve were unable to support the draft resolution.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution E/1992/L.38.

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Somalia, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Finland, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.38, as orally amended, was adopted by 35 votes to 11, with 8 abstentions.

Mr. KUDRYAVTSEV (Russian Federation), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation would undoubtedly have found it possible to support those provisions of the draft resolution which were directly linked to the question of decolonization, an issue which still remained on the Organization's agenda. His country supported coordinated action to overcome the vestiges of colonialism wherever they existed and welcomed the efforts to reach a consensus on all areas of the Council's work. However, a number of the resolution's provisions were excessively politicized and did not take into account the changes occurring in the world; in particular, his delegation could not accept the references to apartheid as drafted. It was to be hoped that, in the future, the Council would be able to adopt an approach to the issue on the basis of consensus; that would, of course, require greater political will on all sides.

Mr. FRANCIS (Australia) said that his delegation, which had abstained during the vote, was of the view that the draft resolution would have had greater relevance had it been drafted in the same terms as Security Council resolution 765 (1992). In view of the roles of the Special Committee on decolonization and the Fourth Committee, the Council should not be dealing with the question of decolonization.

Draft resolution on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States (E/1992/L.37)

The PRESIDENT said that he had been informed by the Secretariat that the draft resolution involved no programme budget implications.

Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), Vice-President, said that in the course of informal consultations the sponsors of the draft resolution had agreed to amend paragraph 2 by adding the words "closely consulted and" before "actively associated with" and to delete the words "and as far as possible properly represented on". He announced that Malaysia had joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mr. STOBY (Director, Economic and Social Affairs and Inter-Agency Coordination Division) said that the Secretariat welcomed the amendment, which effectively addressed its concerns.

Mr. SERGIWA (Observer for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that his delegation wished to be deleted from the list of sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines) said that his delegation wished to join the list of sponsors.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.37, as orally amended, was adopted.

Mr. BARNETT (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had participated in the consensus on the draft resolution, but that it wished to stress that the resolution should be implemented from existing budgetary resources.

SPECIAL ECONOMIC, HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER-RELIEF ASSISTANCE (continued)

Draft resolutions on assistance to Yemen (E/1992/L.33 and L.41)

The SECRETARY drew the Council's attention to an error in the text of draft resolution E/1992/L.41. The resolution had been submitted by Mr. Guerrero (Philippines) and not by Mr. Amaziane (Morocco) as was stated in the text that had been circulated.

Mr. GUERRERO (Philippines), Vice-President, introduced draft resolution E/1992/L.41, which he was submitting on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1992/L.33. He hoped that it would be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.41 was adopted.

Draft resolution E/1992/L.33 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Mr. MUTHANA (Observer for Yemen) expressed his delegation's deep appreciation for the adoption by consensus of the draft resolution, and particularly to the representative of the Philippines, who had conducted the negotiations on the text.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolution on the establishment of new subsidiary bodies of the Council (E/1992/L.40)

Draft resolution E/1992/L.40 was adopted.

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM (continued)

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on policies and activities relating to assistance in the eradication of poverty and support to vulnerable groups, including assistance during the implementation of structural adjustment programmes (E/1992/47), and of the Secretary-General's report on policies and activities relating to the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and programmes addressed to the mitigation of its negative social-economic consequences (E/19°?/67).

It was so decided.

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should take note of the following documents: the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the operational activities of the United Nations system, including the governance and financing aspects thereof (E/1992/64); the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/1992/28); the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (E/1992/73); the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1992/29); and the

(The President)

report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/217 on the World Summit for Children (A/47/264-E/1992/71).

It was so decided.

REPORTS OF THE COORDINATION BODIES

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council take note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) on its thirty-second session (A/47/16, Part I) and endorse the recommendations contained therein. He also proposed that the Council take note of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1991 (E/1992/11 and Add.1 and 2) and of the reports of the Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the joint meetings of the two Committees (E/1991/143).

It was so decided.

REVITALIZATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council take note of the report of the Secretary-General contained in document E/1992/86.

It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (continued)

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council take note of the report of the High Commissioner for Refugees (A/47/12 and Add.1).

It was so decided.

ELECTIONS (continued)

The PRESIDENT recalled that it was the customary practice for the terms of office of membership of Economic and Social Council bodies to be staggered for the initial period in order to avoid a situation in which the entire membership of a given body retired at the same time. The Council would therefore need to draw lots for the initial term of membership for elected members once all vacancies in the three bodies had been filled. He expected that the drawing of lots for that purpose would take place at the organizational session of the Council in 1993 for the first meetings of the bodies concerned.

Committee on Natural Resources (E/1992/114/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed of additional experts nominated by their Governments for vacancies remaining in the groups of African States, Asian States and Latin American and Caribbean States. The names of the experts and their curricula vitae were contained in document E/1992/114/Add.1.

Since the number of candidates was less than or equal to the number of vacancies for each group, he would assume that the Council wished to elect Regis Percy Arslanian (Brazil), Patricio Jerez (Nicaragua), Lukabu Khabouji N'Zaji (Zaire), Aldo Truccio (Argentina) and Zhang Hai-Lun (China) by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development (E/1992/115/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT said that the Secretariat had been informed of additional experts nominated by their Governments for vacancies remaining in the groups of African States, Asian States and Latin American and the Caribbean States. The names of the experts and their curricula vitae were contained in document E/1992/115/Add.1. The representative of Saudi Arabia had proposed the additional candidature of Mr. Al-Sabban, whose curriculum vitae had been distributed in the Council.

Since the number of candidates from those groups was less than, or equal to, the number of vacancies for those groups, he would take it that the Council wished to elect Marcelino K. Actouka (Micronesia), Mohammad Al Ramadhan (Kuwait), José Luis Bozzo (Uruguay), Christian Atoki Ileka (Zaire), E. V. R. Sastry (India), Zhang Guocheng (China) and Mr. Al-Sabban (Saudi Arabia) by acclamation.

It was so decided.

Mr. RAKOTONAIVO (Madagascar) said that the African Group would be submitting a candidate from Nigeria in due course.

The PRESIDENT said that the Committee took due note of the proposed candidature.

STATEMENT BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. JI CHAOZHU (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development) said that at a time of major political and economic change throughout the world, the need to strengthen the role of the United Nations not only in conflict resolution and peace-keeping, but also in addressing the economic and social plight of the majority of the world's peoples, particularly those in developing countries, had never been more compelling. Every effort must be made to close the widening gap between the more affluent and the less developed countries.

The current session of the Council had been one of the most productive in recent years. The new format of the Council, in particular, its high-level segment, had facilitated the beginning of a constructive dialogue on the ways and means to improve the structure of the United Nations system in order to enable it to serve the cause of development.

The decision to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group of the Council to hold consultations and prepare recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on measures to enhance international cooperation for development represented a significant step in strengthening the impact of the work of the Council. He assured the Council of the Secretariat's readiness to assist the working group.

After highlighting a number of major issues discussed during the current session, he said that he wished to focus on several considerations which should be borne in mind as the working group began its deliberations. Firstly, operational activities were significantly enhanced when supported by sound research and analysis of global and sectoral developments and policies, and such research and analysis were more relevant when based on information derived from technical cooperation experience in the field. The assessment of the Council's needs in those areas might affect both the future structure of the Council and the nature of the Secretariat structures servicing it.

Secondly, since the objective of long-term development was to improve the standard of living and quality of life for people, development must be socially and ecologically sustainable. Member States would have to define more clearly the relationship of the new Commission for Sustainable

(Mr. Ji Chaozhu)

Development to other subsidiary bodies of the Council. The new reality that development must be socially and ecologically sustainable must be reflected in the terms of reference of the Commission and the Secretariat arrangements to be established to service it.

Thirdly, the primary consideration in future decisions on the revitalization process in the economic and social sectors should be the further rationalization of the work of the United Nations system and the adjustment of its structures to maximize the work of the Organization in those sectors and to provide for a flexible response to changing rules.

Lastly, the Council also should consider possible modalities for ensuring the more effective harmonization and integration of certain issues and aspects of work in the economic and social sectors in support of preventive diplomacy, peace building and peace-keeping, in the light of the views conveyed by the Secretary-General in that regard to the Security Council and to the Economic and Social Council at its current session.

SUSPENSION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1992

Following an exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the substantive session of 1992 suspended.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.